taking place against Tamilians by the Sri Lankan Armed Forces.

(b) The Hon'ble Member is doubtless aware of the Indo-Sri Lankan Agreement of the 29th July to establish Peace and Normalcy in Sri Lanka.

Issues discussed at the SAARC meeting

1148. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state what were the issues discussed at the recent Conference of SAARC countries stating the areas of accord and the manner in which the decisions arrived at the Conference are proposed to be implemented by the SAARC countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): The Third Session of the SAARC Council of Ministers held in New Delhi on June 18-19, 1987 took decisions:—

(i) to implement five new schemes to promote people-to-people contacts among the SAARC member countries;

(ii) to take early measures to implement the recommendations of the SAARC Group of Experts on Terrorism and to convene a Group of legal experts to prepare a draft Regional Convention on Terrorism for consideration at the Ninth Session of the Standing Committee;

(iii) to establish a South Asian Food Security Reserve;

(iv) to proceed with the establishment of regional institutions and to share the institutional costs of such institutions in terms of the recommendations of the Standing Committee and of the Working Group on the Sharing of Costs of Regional Institutions;

(v) to recommend that the Third SAARC Summit in Kathmandu be held from November 2 to 4, 1987; and

(vi) to lay down interim guidelines for the Secretary General of the SAARC Secretariat on the question of dealing with different agencies outside SAARC and to endorse the Standing Committee's decisions on various matters concerning the SAARC Secretariat, including Staff Rules, Financial Regulations and draft provisions relating to salaries, allowances and other entitlements of the Secretary General and members of staff of the Secretariat.

Follow-up action on these decisions will be taken by the Technical Committees, the Standing Committee and the Council of Ministers in their subsequent meetings.

Closure of Akbar Hotel, New Delhi

1149. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any joint memorandum was submitted to the Government on 5th November, 1986 regarding the closure of the Akbar Hotel, New Delhi.;

(b) if so, who were the signatories to this joint memorandum;

(c) what were the issues raised in the joint memorandum;

(d) whether Government have taken any action in this regard and if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) how many industrial disputes are pending in Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals, High Courts and Supreme Court between former Akbar Hotel employees, including the union and ITDC management, as on date; and

(f) the details of each dispute including date of origin and steps taken to settle each of these disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A letter dated 5th December 1986 was received from Shri V. Gopalsamy, M.P. enclosing a memorandum dated 27th November 1986

signed by 17 Members of Parliament as per list at Statement-I attached. (*See* below)

(c) The main issue raised in the memorandum was that the pending industrial disputes of the erstwhile Akbar Hotel, New Delhi be resolved mutually.

(d) As a policy ITDC management always endeavours to resolve disputes across the table.

(e) and (f) Requirite information is given at Statement-II, attached. (*See* Appendix CXIII, Annexure No. 51]

Statement

Names of signatories to the joint Memorandum dated 5 December, 1986 forwarded by Shri V. Gopal Samy, M.P.

1	Shri M.C. Bhandare	(Cong. I)
2	Shri K.V. Panicker	(Cong. I)
3	Shri Thangabaalu	(Cong. I)
4	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	(B J P)
5	Shri Ashwani Kumar	(B J P)
6	Shri M.S. Gurupadaswamy	(Janata)
7	Shri S.P. Malaviya	(Lokdal)
8	Shri A.G. Kulkarni	(Cong.S)
9	Sukomal Sen	(CPM)
10	Shri G. Varadaraj	(AIADMK)
11	Shri Chitta Basu	(FB)
12	Shri Suraj Prasad	(CPI)
13	Shri Ghulam Rasool Matto	(NC)
14	Shri V. Gopalsami	(DMK)
15	Shri T. Basheer	(Cong. I)
16	Shri Dharam Vir Singh Tyagi	(Cong I)
17	Shri K. Gopalan	(Janata)

Sri Lanka's views on discussing bilateral issues by SAARC

1150. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sri Lanka called for a change in the scope of SAARC so as to discuss bilateral issues;

(b) what was the stand taken by SAARC countries in the past in this regard; and

(c) what was the reaction of each member country to this specific demand raised by Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) In his general statement at the third session of the SAARC Council of Ministers in New Delhi on June 18-19, 1987, the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister raised a number of issues of a bilateral nature.

(b) and (c) According to the SAARC Charter, bilateral and contentious issues shall be excluded from SAARC's deliberations. The suggestions made by the Sri Lanka Foreign Minister were not taken up for discussion. Therefore, the question of the stand taken by individual countries does not arise.

Terrorists Apprehended in Punjab

1151. SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA:

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of terrorists apprehended and the details of the arms and ammunition seized from them since the imposition of President's Rule in Punjab; and

(b) what is the estimated number of terrorists at present in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVENCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) During the period from 12th May, 1987 to 28th July, 1987, 1007 suspected terrorists have been apprehended in Punjab. 371 pistols|revolvers, 86 rifles|guns, 14 stengun|carbine|SMG, 17 hand-grenades|bombs and 3192 cartridges were recovered in action taken by police against terrorists in the State during the above period.